Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 08686 272158Z

64
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /135 W
---------- 098107
O P 272112Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0301
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TZR AVIV 8686

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGBGC XF
SUBJECT: ARAB-ISRAELI POW'S --ICRC

REF: GENEVA 5702

1. FONMIN ABBA EBAN EXPRESSED TO ME THIS EVENING THE GROWING CONCERN OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL FOR EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS ISRAELI POW'S. HE NOTED THAT

SYRIA HAD NOT GIVEN TO THE ICRC A SINGLE NAME OF ISRAELI POW'S AND EGYPT HAS GIVEN THE NAMES OF ONLY 40 ISRAELI POWS TO THE ICRC. AS CONCERNS EGYPT, ISRAEL KNOWS THAT THERE ARE "SOME HUNDREDS" OF ISRAELI POW'S IN EGYPTIAN HAND
.

2. EBAN NOTED THAT THE GOI DID NOT PUBLISH NAMES AS A MATTER OF POLICY OF THOSE SOLDIERS IT BELIEVES ARE IN THE HANDS OF EITHER THE SYRIANS OR THE EGYPTIANS. IN FACT,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 08686 272158Z

SAID EBAN, THE ISRAELI GOVT IS TRYING TO KEEP ALL ASPECTS

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

OF THE POW ISSUE UNDER WRAPS AT HOME UNTIL THE REQUIRED INFO IS RECEIVED FROM SYRIA AND EGYPT THROUGH THE ICRS. GIVEN THE URGENCY AND EXPLOSIVENESS OF THIS ISSUE HERE, EBAN IS SENDING A SPECIAL ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE TO GENEVA ON MONDAY IN ORDER TO IMPRESS THE ICRC AUTHORITIES WITH THE GREAT EMERGENCY OF THIS ISSUE.

3. EBAN STRESSED THE CENTRAL ROLE OF A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE POW ISSUE TO ANY HOPES FOR PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. (COMMENT. THIS WAS NOT A THREAT, BUT RATHER A CANDID STATEMENT OF THE FACTS AS SEEN THROUGH ISRAELI EYES.) EBAN ADDED THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MOVING THE EGYPTIANS AND SYRIANS TO A SPEEDY AND SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE POW PROBLEM.

4. AS CONCERNS THE SYRIANS, EBAN NOTED THAT ISRAEL HAD BEEN RECEIVING SOME "MACABRE" REPORTS CONCERNING THE TREATMENT OF POW'S. HE NOTED IN THIS RESPECT THAT AFTER RECAPTURE OF FORMER ISRAELI POSITIONS ON MT. HERMON, SOME ISRAELI POW'S WERE FOUND TIED HAND AND FOOT AND SHOT DEAD. HE REPEATED THAT THE GOI WAS DOING ITS BEST TO KEEP THE LID ON SUCH INFORMATION BEING WIDELY DISSEMINATED SINCE THIS COULD ONLY FAN THE ALREADY HIGH PASSIONS IN ISRAEL ON THE POW ISSUE.

5. COMMENT. EBAN'S COMMENTS SERVED TO EMPHASIZE WHAT WE ALL ALREADY KNOW: THE IMPORTANCE OF A SPEEDY EXCHANGE OF POW'S. I HOPE THE ICRC UNDERSTANDS THE CENTRAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE HERE (PRESUMABLY THE SOVIETS ARE ALREADY AWARE OF THIS). I GOT THE IMPRESSION FROM REFTEL THAT THIS IS NOT THE CASE AT PRESENT. PERHAPS THE ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE DUE TO ARRIVE ON MONDAY WILL EMPHASIZE THIS POINT WHICH MIGHT ALSO BE PUSHED AT APPROPRIATE TIMES BY OUR MISSION IN GENEVA.
KEATING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POW, WAR, ARMISTICE, PEACE PLANS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TELAV08686
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS KEATING
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973107/aaaaaetc.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: GENEVA 5702
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <16-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB-ISRAELI POW'S --ICRC
TAGS: PFOR, XF, EG, IS, SY, CIRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005